

# News Release

**New member of the Executive Committee:**

## **Barry Callebaut appoints Isabelle Esser Chief Human Resources Officer**

*Zurich/Switzerland, December 13, 2018* – Barry Callebaut AG, the world’s leading manufacturer of high-quality chocolate and cocoa products, today announced the appointment of Isabelle Esser as Chief Human Resources Officer and member of the Executive Committee, reporting to CEO Antoine de Saint-Affrique, effective February 1, 2019 (see also separate CV). Isabelle Esser will work to ensure that Barry Callebaut’s people strategy is fully aligned with its “smart growth” business strategy.

Antoine de Saint-Affrique, CEO of Barry Callebaut, said: “Isabelle Esser has a proven track record as a change agent with a clear business focus and has demonstrated her ability to build strong relationships with business leaders across an organization. Isabelle’s understanding of global businesses and experience in developing high-performing teams will be key to fueling our future growth because we can only grow the company as fast as we grow our people.”

Isabelle Esser joins Barry Callebaut from Unilever, where she currently serves as Executive Vice President R&D Foods Transformation in the Global Foods & Refreshment Division, responsible for leading the transformation of the Foods R&D into a more agile innovation engine and for developing talent, capabilities and the organization of the future. In her more than 25 years of leadership experience, Isabelle Esser has held various management positions in Innovation and R&D with the Foods as well as the Home & Personal Care businesses of Unilever, championing and driving innovation strategies while also defining, developing and implementing the human capital, skills and capabilities needed to support the respective business strategy.

Isabelle Esser holds a degree as ‘Ingénieur Civil en Sciences des Matériaux, Orientation Physique’ from Louvain-La-Neuve University in Belgium and a PhD in chemistry from Birmingham University in the UK.

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***About Barry Callebaut Group ([www.barry-callebaut.com](http://www.barry-callebaut.com)):***

*With annual sales of about CHF 6.9 billion (EUR 6.0 billion / USD 7.1 billion) in fiscal year 2017/18, the Zurich-based Barry Callebaut Group is the world’s leading manufacturer of high-quality chocolate and cocoa products – from sourcing and processing cocoa beans to producing the finest chocolates, including chocolate fillings, decorations and compounds. The Group runs about 60 production facilities worldwide and employs a diverse and dedicated global workforce of more than 11,500 people.*

*The Barry Callebaut Group serves the entire food industry, from industrial food manufacturers to artisanal and professional users of chocolate, such as chocolatiers, pastry chefs, bakers, hotels, restaurants or caterers. The two global brands catering to the specific needs of these Gourmet customers are Callebaut® and Cacao Barry®.*

*The Barry Callebaut Group is committed to make sustainable chocolate the norm by 2025 to help ensure future supplies of cocoa and improve farmer livelihoods. It supports the Cocoa Horizons Foundation in its goal to shape a sustainable cocoa and chocolate future.*

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**Contact**

**for the media:**

Frank Keidel  
Head of Media Relations  
Barry Callebaut AG  
Phone: + 41 43 268 86 06  
frank\_keidel@barry-callebaut.com

**for investors and financial analysts:**

Claudia Pedretti  
Head of Investor Relations  
Barry Callebaut AG  
Phone: +41 43 204 04 23  
claudia\_pedretti@barry-callebaut.com